

Honeycomb Investment Trust plc

Investment Manager's Commentary

The Company generating 0.58% NAV return per share or 7.0% annualised in January. This brings the inception to date return to 25.71%.

The Company's January return reflects the impact of an increase in IFRS 9 provisions related to organic portfolio due to a seasonal increase in arrears. The performance of the structured and seasoned portfolios continues to be robust.

The investment asset portfolio increased moderately during the month from £603m to £608m. The Company is substantially fully invested with the debt to equity ratio of 47.26% and £187.5m of drawn debt.

The Company published an updated base prospectus in December 2018 alongside a new 12 month placing programme.

Background and Investment Objective

Honeycomb Investment Trust plc (the "Company") is a specialist lending fund whose investment objective is to provide shareholders with an attractive level of dividend income and capital growth through the acquisition of interests in loans made to consumers and small business as well as other counterparties.

The Company may also make selected equity investments that align with the Company's strategy, and that present opportunities to enhance the Company's returns from its investments.

The Company believes that consumer, property and SME loans are asset classes that have the potential to provide attractive returns for investors on a risk-adjusted basis. Changes in the focus of mainstream lenders together with the implementation of new models that utilise data, analytics and technology more effectively, provide an opportunity to deliver better products to borrowers while generating attractive returns for the Company.

The Company and the Investment Manager seek to acquire credit assets which meet the specified underwriting criteria through three routes; (1) organically originate and acquire through referral partners which source opportunities; (2) acquiring seasoned portfolios; and (3) providing senior and mezzanine structured loans secured on portfolios of consumer, property and SME loans.

Investment Features

- Investment team has a combined 100+ years credit underwriting and consumer lending experience.
- Highly granular and well diversified portfolio.
- Majority of portfolio benefiting from downside protection or seasoning.
- 8% targeted dividend on issue price when fully invested and leverage applied, payable quarterly.
- UK Investment Trust tax treatment.

Key Details


	IFRS 9
Net Assets (Cum Income)	£403.02m
Net Assets (Ex Income)	£394.40m
Monthly Total NAV Return	0.58%
YTD Total NAV Return	0.58%
ITD* Total NAV Return	25.71%
Debt to Equity	47.26%
Shares in Issue	39,449,919
Share Price	1,130.0p
Market Capitalisation	£445.78m
NAV per Share (Cum Income)	1,021.6p
NAV per Share (Ex Income)	999.8p
Premium / (Discount) to NAV (Cum Income)	10.61%

*ITD: Inception to Date – excludes IPO Issue Costs

Fund Facts

Type of Fund	Closed – Ended Fund
Listing	Specialist Fund Segment of the London Stock Exchange
Ticker	HONY
ISIN	GB00BYZV3G25
Inception Date	23 December 2015
Dividend	Quarterly
NAV Calculation	As of last day of each month
Management Fee	1%
Performance Fee*	10%

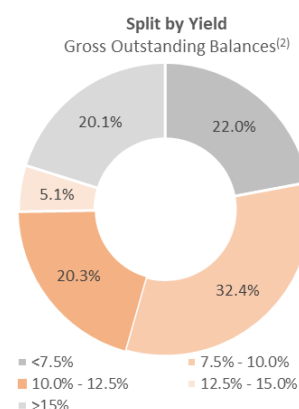
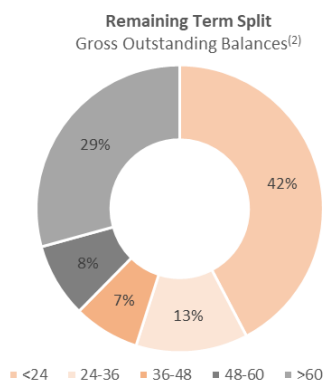
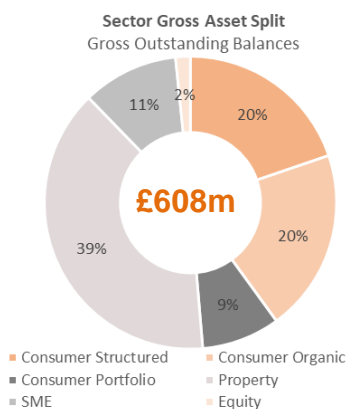
*subject to 5% preferred return hurdle and high watermark



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Portfolio Statistics

Number of Loans	Average Balance ⁽¹⁾	Interest Rate ⁽²⁾	Average Remaining Contractual Term (months) ⁽²⁾	Structural or Seasoning Protection
c77,000	c£5k	11.7%	55	78%



⁽¹⁾ Excludes structured positions

⁽²⁾ Excludes equity positions

Performance and Dividend History

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD	ITD*	
Total NAV Return IAS 39	2016	0.04%	0.13%	0.19%	0.92%	0.60%	0.79%	0.68%	0.70%	0.88%	0.89%	0.92%	0.94%	7.85%	7.83%
Total NAV Return IAS 39	2017	0.69%	0.69%	0.78%	0.62%	1.80% ⁽¹⁾	0.55%	0.65%	0.62%	0.63%	0.61%	0.61%	0.79%	9.11%	17.24%
Total NAV Return IFRS 9	2018	0.66%	0.59%	0.72%	1.36% ⁽³⁾	0.56%	0.60%	0.63%	0.67%	0.67%	0.67%	0.65%	0.60%	8.43%	25.12%
Total NAV Return IFRS 9	2019	0.58%												0.58%	25.71%⁽²⁾
Share Price Performance**	2016	150%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.54%	2.05%	2.05%	
Share Price Performance**	2017	3.92%	3.72%	0.45%	1.81%	(0.89%)	4.93%	2.78%	0.42%	(1.24%)	(0.84%)	(0.63%)	(1.49%)	13.42%	15.75%
Share Price Performance**	2018	(1.94%)	-	-	(1.76%)	-	0.90%	-	0.89%	(0.44%)	-	-	(2.38%)	13.00%	
Share Price Performance**	2019	-													13.00%
Dividend Per Share (Pence)***	2016	-	-	-	-	2.11	-	-	-	19.66	-	23.13	-	44.90	44.90
Dividend Per Share (Pence)***	2017	-	-	23.5	-	24.50****	-	-	-	20.00	-	-	20.00	88.00	132.90
Dividend Per Share (Pence)***	2018	-	-	20.00	20.00	-	-	-	-	20.00	-	-	20.00	80.00	212.90
Dividend Per Share (Pence)***	2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		212.90

* ITD: Inception to Date – excludes IPO Issue Costs

** Based on IPO Issue Price of 1000p

*** Recognised in the month when marked ex-dividend

**** based upon the number of shares at the ex-dividend date

⁽¹⁾ NAV return excluding effect of capital raise and issuance at a premium would have been 0.77%

⁽²⁾ Inception to date NAV return affected by IFRS 9 initial recognition on 2018 bought forward retained earnings

⁽³⁾ NAV return excluding effect of capital raise and issuance at a premium would have been 0.63%



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Glossary

“**NAV (Cum Income)**” will include all income not yet moved to reserves (both revenue and capital income), less the value of (i) any dividends paid in respect of that income and (ii) any dividends in respect of that income which have been declared and marked ex dividend but not yet paid.

“**NAV (Ex Income)**” will be the NAV (Cum-Income) excluding net income (both revenue and capital income) that is yet to be transferred to reserves as described below. For this purpose net income will comprise all income not yet moved to reserves (both revenue and capital income), less the value of (i) any dividends paid in respect of that income and (ii) any dividends in respect of that income which have been declared and marked ex dividend but not yet paid.

Any income in respect of a financial year, which is intended to remain undistributed will be moved to reserves on the first business day of the immediately following year, meaning that each figure for NAV (Ex-Income) reported during a financial year will equate to the NAV (Cum-Income) less undistributed income which has not been moved to reserves.

“**Share Price**” closing mid-market share price at month end (excluding dividends reinvested).

“**Premium / (Discount)**” the amount by which the price per share of an investment trust is either higher (at a premium) or lower (at a discount) than the net asset value per share (cum income), expressed as a percentage of the net asset value per share.

“**Net Assets**” total assets minus any liabilities.

“**Market Capitalisation**” the closing mid-market share price multiplied by the number of shares outstanding at month end.

“**Total NAV Return**” is calculated as NAV (Cum Income) at the end of the period, plus dividends declared during the period, divided by NAV (Cum Income) calculated on a per share basis at the start of the period.